

PRESENT – PAST – PRESENT PERFECT – PAST PERFECT

Fill in the correct tense



Mr Sam P. Know-All is a private detective in a small town in northern Canada. He (open) his office a couple of years ago and so far he (solve) a number of cases.

Two years ago, for example, Mr and Mrs Kittsy (ask) him to find their cat, which (be) missing for quite some time, and Mr Plague (not find) his precious stamp collection any more. While Sam (look) for the stamps, he (come) across a group of burglars and he (not only blow) their cover but also (tell) the police where to find them. Since that day Sam (be) the most respected private detective in that area.

Another successful case for Sam (happen) just a couple of months ago. The local police asked him to catch some spray-painters. One day when Sam (jog) through the park he (suddenly see) a group of teenagers who (sit) in the grass, all having paint on their clothes, hands and even their faces. The detective (think) that was really odd and (start) observing them. After he (watch) them for a couple of days, he (tell) everything he (find) out to the police. Only some days later the police (be) able to close that case!

Sam (usually work) alone. He (not only make) all the phone calls and paperwork, he also (observe) his suspects and he (take) nightshifts. However, at the moment he (work) on a very tricky case and that's why he (have) a partner since last Friday. So far, Benjamin K. Helpful (prove) to be a good assistant. He (not only keep) the office in order, but he (also do) all the boring work like going through a number of evidence material. Since 7:00 in the morning he (analyse) photographs and witness reports but he (not find) anything strange or odd yet. Hopefully they will be able to solve this case, too!

Form questions and negations of the sentences given. Mind the tenses!

1. Sam P. Know-All works as a teacher.

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2. Sam and his assistant were jogging through the forest.

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3. Benjamin has been watching TV for ages.

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4. The police arrested an old man.

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5. At the moment Benjamin is observing some suspects.

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6. The teenagers stole the stamps.

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7. Sam always has a case to solve.

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8. They are helping the police.

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9. Benjamin was talking to Mrs Kittsy.

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10. They have already found the culprit.

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